



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,025	11/21/2003	Elliot Lorne Chaikof	133-02	3169
23713	7590	07/29/2010	EXAMINER	
GREENLEE SULLIVAN P.C. 4875 PEARL EAST CIRCLE SUITE 200 BOULDER, CO 80301			NOAKES, SUZANNE MARIE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1656	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/29/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/720,025	CHAIKOF ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SUZANNE M. NOAKES	1656	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2010.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-6 and 8-76 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-32,35,36 and 41-76 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-11,33,34 and 37-40 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 07 July 2010 has been entered.

Status of the Claims

2. The amendments to the claims and response to the previous Office action (a Final Office action) are acknowledged. Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-76 are pending; claims 12-32, 36, 36 and 41-76 remain withdrawn from consideration for the reasons recited in the previous Office action. Claims 1, 2-6, 8-11, 33, 34 and 37-40 are subject to Examination on the merits.

Withdrawal of Previous Rejections/Objections

3. Any objection/rejection previously recited and not reiterated below is hereby withdrawn.

Maintained Rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 33, 34 and 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Wright and Conticello (Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev., Oct. 2002, 54:1057-73 – cited on IDS from 1/21/04).

The claims are drawn to synthetic protein copolymers of the construction BAB wherein the A block is selected from a hydrophilic middle block: SEQ ID NO: 21, 23, 24, 25, 30, 33, 35, 38, 41, 42, 43, (SEQ ID NO: 63)_m, (SEQ ID NO: 14)_m, (SEQ ID NO: 15)_m, (SEQ ID NO: 18)_m, with m being about 10 to 100 and B is a hydrophobic block of SEQ ID NO: 11 or 12

Wright and Conticello teach synthetic protein copolymers of the construction AB and BAB, wherein A is a hydrophilic block and B is a hydrophobic block. Various representative B and A blocks are taught in Table 2, p. 1060. It is noted that the B blocks are of the form: [VPAVG(IPAVG)₄]₁₆ which is encompassed in the instant SEQ ID NO: 11 - [VPAVG(IPAVG)₄]_n. Also, taught for the A or middle block, are the instant SEQ ID NOs: 14 and 15 which are respectively encompassed by copolymer A of Polymer# 4 (SEQ ID NO: 14 and 15) and expressly taught is copolymer A from Polymer #'s 3-7 which are the instant SEQ ID Nos: 38, 41, 42, 43 and 63 (see Table 2). The copolymers

form microparticles (e.g. self-assembled gels – see Figure 7) and also have inverse transition temperatures at about 25°C (see p. 1068, 1st column, 1st paragraph).

Response to Declarations

6. The declarations filed under 37 CFR 1.132 on 07 July 2010 are insufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 8-11, 33, 34 and 37-40, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Wright and Conticello (Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev., Oct. 2002, 54:1057-73 – cited on IDS from 1/21/04) as set forth in the last Office action and above because of the following deficiencies:

The instant application lists seven different inventors, Chaikof, Nagapudi, Brinkman, Conticello, McMillan, Wright and Payne. However, the declaration seems to intimate that *only* Wright and Conticello have contributed to the examined claims and also to withdrawn claims 22 and 26. Thus, it is unclear what the remaining inventors have contributed, e.g. contributions to remaining pending but withdrawn claims? Therefore, it would be imperative should the instant pending claims be allowed and the remaining claims cancelled, a correction of inventorship would be required. Or alternatively, have the remaining inventors also contributed to the pending and examined claims, but were merely omitted from authorship of said Wright and Conticello paper for various reasons but *could* have been included as authors. Clarification in the instant Declaration is needed.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 07 July 2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants arguments regarding the 35 U.S.C. 102(a) rejections of record have been considered but are unpersuasive to overcome the rejections of record for the reasons set forth above in the response to Applicants Declarations filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.132.

Conclusion

8. No claim is allowed.
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUZANNE M. NOAKES whose telephone number is (571)272-2924. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.00 AM-3.30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Manjunath Rao can be reached on 571-272-0939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Suzanne M. Noakes/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1656
07 July 2010